

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A clothing apparatus is provided with at least one fabric panel, a panel of stretch fabric, a sensor unit retaining pocket, and a light opaque fabric. The at least one fabric panel is configured to encompass a patient thoracic region. The stretch fabric panel is joined to the fabric panel about the thoracic region of a patient when wearing the clothing apparatus. A free edge of the overlapping stretch fabric panel is configured to be releasably mated along an overlapping area of the stretch fabric panel with one of the fabric panel and the stretch fabric panel. The sensor unit retaining pocket is provided between the at least one fabric panel and the stretch fabric panel. The light opaque fabric is provided in the fabric panel about an opening in an inner surface of the fabric panel contiguous with the retaining pocket. The opening is configured to enable a sensor unit received within the pocket to maintain direct contact with a skin surface of a patient over the thoracic heart region. The light opaque fabric is configured to reduce ambient light levels immediately surrounding the pocket opening. A method is also provided.